



**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0016] of the specification with the following paragraph:

[0016] Referring to ~~Figure 1~~ Figures 1 through 3, a battery assembly is generally indicated at 10. The battery assembly 10 stores electrical energy and releases this energy through an electrical current to a circuit that is connected to each of the two battery posts 12, 14 that act as terminals for the battery. The battery posts 12, 14 are shown as bolts that provide an electrical path to an electrical conductor, discussed subsequently, wherein the bolts are threadingly secured to the electrical contact so that an electrical circuit may be secured thereto by tightening the bolts of the battery posts 12, 14 forcing a physical, electrical connection therebetween. Please note, for sake of clarity and consistency, numbers shown in one figure may be repeated in additional figures illustrating the same feature.

Please replace paragraph [0020] of the specification with the following paragraph:

[0020] The battery assembly 10 includes a plurality of cells 34. Each of the cells 34 is generally planar and extends between a first side 36 and a second side 38. As is typical with cell construction, each of the plurality of cells 34 is fabricated from a plurality of bi-cells that are connected together in a manner known in the art. Potential is transferred from one plate to another through the intermediate material to allow current to pass therethrough. Each of the ~~cells~~ cells 34 includes a first terminal 40 and a second terminal 42. The first terminal 40 is disposed adjacent and extending out and away from the first side 36 of the cell 34, whereas the

second terminal 42 is disposed adjacent to and extending out from the second side 38 of the cell 34. The first 40 and second 42 terminals are oriented such that they may be considered extensions of the first 36 and second 38 sides. As is typical with cell construction, the first terminal 40 is physically connected the positively charged plates within the cell 34 and the second terminal 42 is physically connected to the negatively charged plates of the cell 34. This allows current to flow through the cell 34 between the first 40 and second 42 terminals, depending on which of the terminals 40, 42 is connected to which of the plates disposed therein.

Please replace paragraph [0026] of the specification with the following paragraph:

[0026] The bus supports 44 include a guide 52 which extends across the entire length of the buses 46. The guides 52 are defined by two guide channels 54, 56 on either side of the buses 46.

Please replace paragraph [0027] of the specification with the following paragraph:

[0001] [0027] A slide ~~54~~ 59 is received by the bus supports 44. The slides ~~54~~ 59 extend through the guides 52 and cover the first 40 and second 42 terminals. Stops ~~56~~ 60 prevent the slides ~~54~~ 59 from being removed from the guides 52. To tighten the contact between the first terminals 40 and second terminals 42, respectively, the guide 52 extends along the bus supports 44 at an angle with respect to the frame 16 and the top surface 50 of the cells 34. The angle, best seen in Figures 8 and 9, is an acute angle such that a first end ~~56~~ 57 of each of the slides ~~54~~ 59 is positioned closer to the top surface 50 of the cells 34 than a second end 58 of the slides ~~54~~ 59. In addition, the second end 58 of the slide ~~54~~ 59 is greater in depth than the first end ~~56~~ 57 of the slide ~~54~~ 59. In the embodiment shown in the Figures, the slide ~~54~~ 59 is used to force the terminals 40, 42 to bend over each other resulting in the electrical connection between all of the

cells 34. In an alternative embodiment (not shown), the terminals 40, 42 are bent over each other prior to the insertion of the slide ~~54~~ 59 into the guide 52. In this alternative embodiment, a mask may be placed over the terminals 40, 42. In addition, a kinetic spray may be applied to the terminals before the ~~sliders 54~~ slides 59 are placed in position over the terminals 40, 42. The addition of the mask and the kinetic spray enhance the connection between the terminals 40, 42 and, at the same time, inhibits corrosion due to the harsh environment in which the battery assembly 10 may be placed.